

General policy considerations for street maintenance and improvements for the City of Midland Complete Streets Program

Preamble:

“Complete Streets” is the term given to streets that accommodate all forms of travel, including automobiles, bicycles, pedestrians, personal mobility devices, transit and freight in a safe environment on designated City streets.

The City of Midland adopted a Master Street Plan which proposes a network of streets with design features that will accommodate pedestrians and vehicular movement. The Plan includes a bicycle plan that specifically defines proposed trails, on-street bike lanes and bike routes.

The guiding policy for a Complete Streets Program for the City of Midland is to design, operate and maintain designated City streets to promote safe and convenient access for all users. The City proposes to do this in a manner consistent with and supportive of the surrounding community. This can be accomplished with improvements that may include an array of facilities and amenities recognized as contributing to the Complete Streets Program.

The City of Midland supports the concept of “Complete Streets” and will implement a policy to review changes of transportation facilities on local streets. This will be done in keeping with the goal of accommodating all forms of travel and in keeping with the design specifications of the Master Street Plan. The policy recognizes that all streets are different and in each case user needs must be balanced with the benefit to the entire community.

Policy:

1. Sidewalks, shared use paths, street crossings, including under and over passes, pedestrian signals, signs, transit stops and other facilities will be designed, constructed, operated and maintained so that pedestrians including those with disabilities, can travel safely and independently.
2. The Complete Streets Program will address the need for bicyclist and pedestrians to cross and travel on streets even where there is infrequent use. Therefore, the design policy of intersections and interchanges will be to accommodate and to consider the Complete Streets Program for bicyclists and pedestrians in a manner that is safe, accessible and a benefit to the entire community.
3. The Complete Streets Program will consider as a part of any new or reconstruction of designated streets and right of ways the above policy guidelines for the benefit of the entire community and non-motorized transportation.